GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1566
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000
INDIA`S CANDIDATURE FOR SC
HARIBHAU MAHALE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the latest reports emanating from America that though the U.S. President is in favour of nominating India as a permanent member of U.N. Security Council, the main obstacle in the process is the U.N. resolution on Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether the Government have sought any clarification on these reports;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) - (d) The Government is aware that reports in question are based on a remark attributed to President Clinton in a press release by a private foundation in the United States. The reports being referred to are not official statements of the US Government and it is also not the policy of the Government of India to seek clarifications on non-official reports appearing in the press.

Government is also aware that the US is among several countries that have not yet officially taken a firm position on the question of Security Council expansion. No official U.S statement has linked the question of India`s candidature for permanent membership of the Security Council with UN resolutions on Kashmir.